



GREATER MEKONG SUBREGION

KNOWLEDGE NETWORK

Work Plan and Knowledge for Innovation Program

Antonio Ressano

GMS Secretariat

Development Partners' Meeting

GMS 8th Summit of Leaders

Kunming, Yunnan Province, PRC

5 November 2024





GMS Knowledge Network: Context, Objectives, and Outputs



Context

- GMS-2030 calls for “deepening of dialogue on policies and regulations through knowledge-based solutions and capacity building”.
- GMS-2030 acknowledges the vital role of regional knowledge centers and think tanks and
- Endorsed by GMS Senior Officials and noted by Ministers in Q4 2022.
- Nomination of country members of the Steering Committee of the GMSKN completed by Q2 2023



Objectives

- Enhance systematic knowledge-sharing among research institutions.
- A mechanism to coordinate and undertake joint research activities
- Develop knowledge on key issues leading to greater regional cooperation.
- Knowledge that can lead to policy dialogue as well as the production of policy and regulatory inputs for government and private sector.
- Raise the subregion’s voice in the international arena on core topics of equitable and sustainable development.



Outputs

- **Output 1:** Research and analytical work leading to operational and policy recommendations
- **Output 2:** Dissemination and knowledge exchange (workshops, conferences, online content)
- **Output 3:** Training modules and other capacity building activities





GMS Knowledge Network: Stocktaking Study



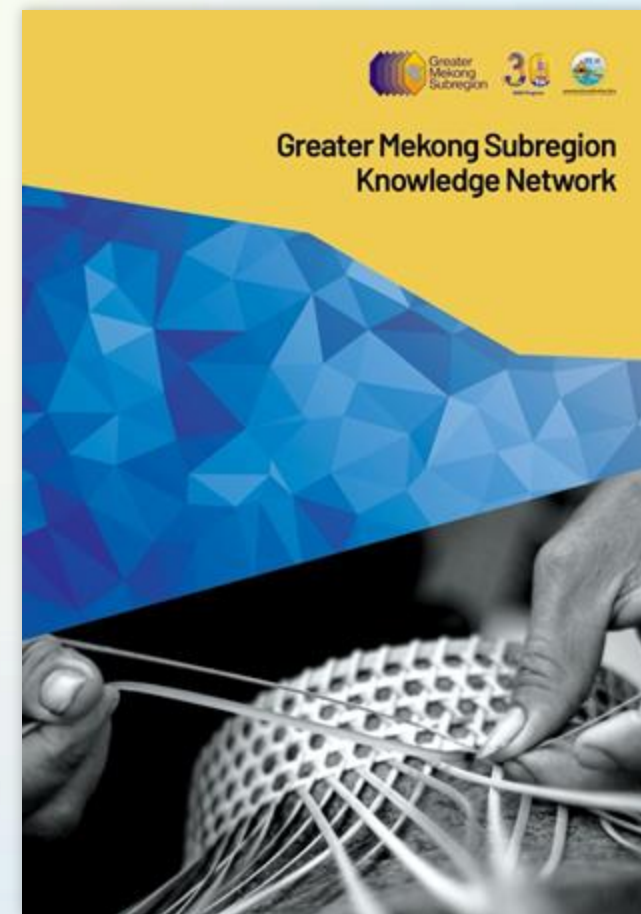
Objective is to provide substance for formulating a 3-year work plan for the GMSKN

Results – priority areas

- Environment and climate change
- Agriculture
- Cross-border trade and logistics
- Energy
- Digitalization

Results – services and products

- Develop applicable knowledge (policy briefs/videos tailored for different users)
- Organize networking and socializing in person events
- Establish enduring knowledge communities (looking at specific themes/topics)
- Support training and study tour programs
- Develop a digital platform (for information storage/management) and social media platforms (for dissemination)
- Design integrated programs (multiple complementary components)





GMS Knowledge Network: Next Steps



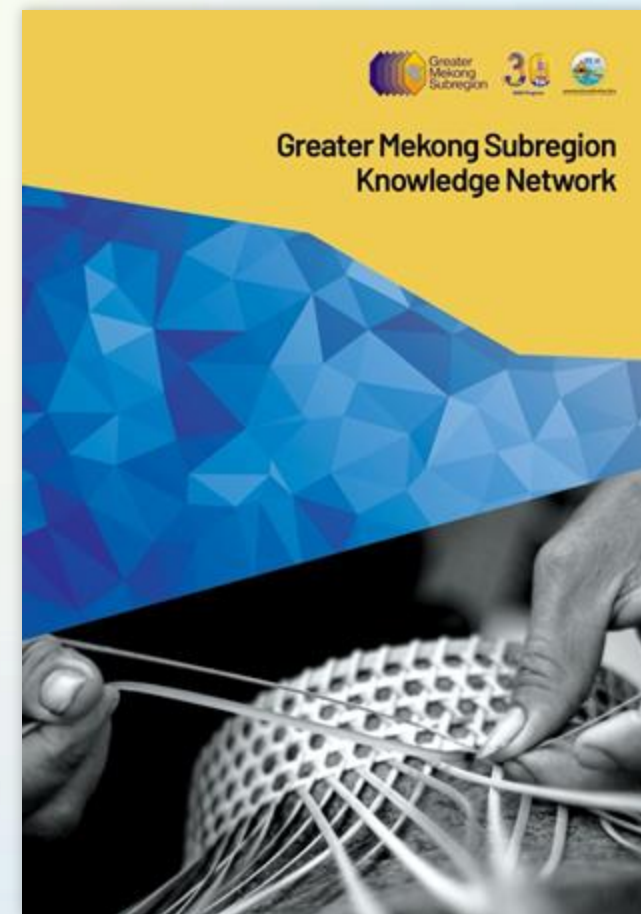
GMSKN Work Plan 2025-27: Steering Committee of the GMSKN to refine priority areas of knowledge identified through the stocktaking study and draft a 3-year workplan for the network.



Immediate activities to start in 2025: “Knowledge and Innovation” program focusing on “Sustainable and Inclusive Agrifood Systems” (integrated approach proposed in the stocktaking study).



The GMSKN Steering Committee to meet end of November 2024 to agree on the 2025 immediate activity and on the next steps for formulating the 2025-27 work plan.

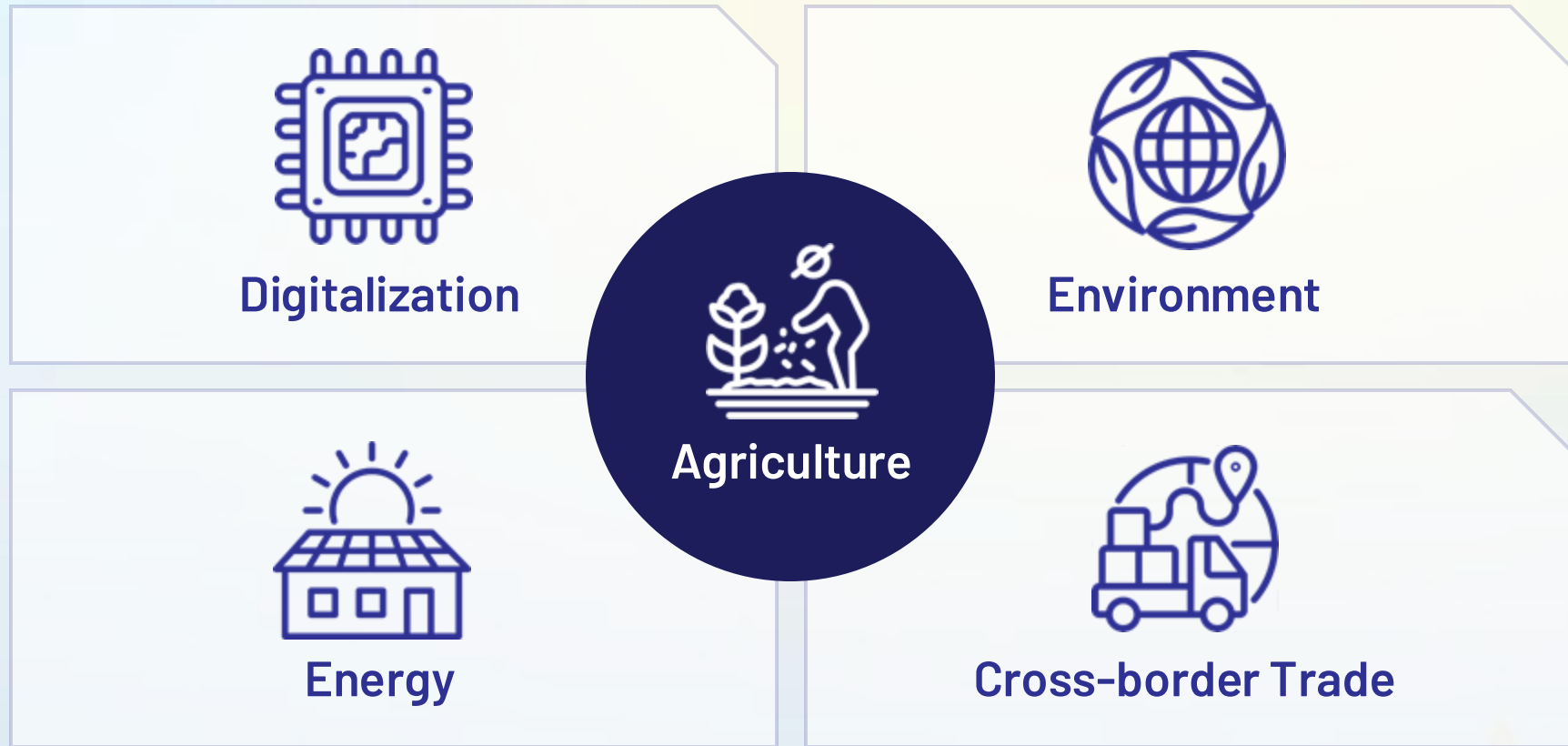




GMS Knowledge Network: Immediate 2025 Activity



“Knowledge for Innovation” program on “Sustainable and Inclusive Agrifood Systems”



Integrated approach - components

1. Network development and knowledge mapping
2. Envisioning and agenda-setting
3. Knowledge “Cafes”
4. Policy briefs
5. Training/Certification Courses
6. Operational communities
7. Concluding Conference
8. Knowledge Online Portal





Core Roles and Responsibilities



GMSKN members + 4 additional participants per country

- Formulate initial “statements” with priority focus areas of the theme and sectors of the Kfl program
- Be leading participants in the various components of the program
- Communicate with various knowledge entities and mobilize their participation in the Kfl program



ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

ADB / GMS Secretariat

- Strategic guidance within the framework of the GMS Program
- Liaise with other bodies of the GMS Program such as working groups, task forces, Business Council.
- Securing initial funding and identifying potential financiers of follow up activities
- Managing administrative aspects such as engagement of consultants, and contracting of venues, travel and accommodation





Core Roles and Responsibilities



Mekong Institute

- Host of the Kfl program, overall coordination
- Network development (technically and administratively)
- Internal and external communication; GMS knowledge platform;
- Technical administration of the Certification Course (zoom/teams)
- Conference administration



Consultants (about 20 experts)

- Lead implementing partner and facilitator; coordination of experts
- Managing the certification course; methodological guidance, facilitation of knowledge cafés; technical inputs through the experts
- Providing guidance, training, and support to Mekong Institute and the 30 participants in fulfilling their tasks





Roles and Responsibilities

- **Core team:** GMSKN SC members, Mekong Institute (MI), GMS Secretariat and consultants
- **Project Management:** MI and GMS Secretariat (with guidance from GMSKN SC members and support from consultants)
- **Network development:** MI and GMSKN SC members
- **Envisioning and agenda-setting:** Core team
- **Certification course:** consultants
- **Knowledge cafés:** MI and consultants
- **Policy-briefs:** GMSKN SC members and consultants
- **Operational Communities:** GMSKN SC members and MI
- **Online knowledge platform:** MI, GMS Secretariat and consultants
- **Funding:** GMS Secretariat and GMSKN SC members (in kind)





Implementation Timetable (9 Months Optimal)



| Components | M1-2 | M3-4 | M5-6 | M7-8 | M9 |
|--------------------------------|------|------|------|------|----|
| Networking | | | | | |
| Envisioning and agenda-setting | | | | | |
| Capacity building | | | | | |
| Knowledge cafés and briefs | | | | | |
| Knowledge communities | | | | | |
| GMS Knowledge Space | | | | | |
| Conference | | | | | |





Thank you!





Guiding Questions for Discussion

1. From the priority themes and sectors (agriculture, digitalization, energy, environment, trade) pre-identified for the 3-year work plan of the GMS Knowledge Network, are there any specific knowledge initiatives and products that your organization would be keen to support and collaborate on?
2. Considering the Knowledge for Innovation program proposed for 2025 (on Sustainable Agrifood Systems), what components or activities would be most relevant for your organization and in what ways would it potentially participate and support?

Interventions

Country:

- ❖ Cambodia

Development Partner:

- ❖ Mekong Institute

Open Discussion

Open floor for participants to reflect on the questions and share their insights and views over the topic.

